GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:59
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2003
DISMANTLING VIKRANT WARSHIP
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has intimated the Union Government about the dismantling of Vikrant Warship;

(b) whether several meetings took place between the representatives of Union Government and the Government of Maharashtra during the last six months in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government have agreed to support financially the Vikrant Museum Project; and

(e) if so, the details and present status of Vikrant Museum Project?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Three meetings have taken place in the last six months to discuss feasibilities of converting Vikrant Warship in to a museum.

(c) It was decided that the Project would be implemented in two phases, with the 1st phase involving grouting of the ship and setting up of the museum and the 2nd phase consisting of setting up revenue generating activities on board.

(d) The Union Government has released Rs. 5 crore in June 2003 for essentialmaintenance of Vikrant. No decision has yet been taken regarding further financial support by Government of India to the project.

(e) Vikrant has been commissioned as an in-house museum by the Navy and was opened to the public in November 2001.